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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

# PITCAIRN

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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# PITCAIRN 1/

## I. GENERAL

1. Pitcairn, a Non-Self-Governing Territory administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, consists of four islands. Only Pitcairn, a volcanic island situated in the South Pacific about midway between Australia and South America, is inhabited. It is 3 kilometres long and 1.5 kilometres wide with a land area of 4.5 square kilometres. Adamstown is the name of the only settlement on Pitcairn. Included in the Territory are three uninhabited islands: Oeno, Ducie and Henderson.

2. Pitcairn is populated by descendants of mutineers from the HMS Bounty, which arrived at Pitcairn 200 years ago, in January 1790. The first settlers included 9 mutineers and 19 Polynesians.

3. According to the current report of the administering Power, one death and no births were recorded during the period under review. As previously reported, there were 48 Pitcairners on the island, while the number of expatriates fluctuated between 9 and 21 (see also A/AC.109/977 and A/AC.109/936).

## II. CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

4. Responsibility for the Territory is vested in the United Kingdom High Commissioner to New Zealand, who is also designated as Governor of Pitcairn. Pitcairn Islanders manage their internal affairs through the Island Council consisting of 10 members: the Island Magistrate, who serves as Chairman with both executive and judicial powers and who is elected for three years; three councillors, elected each year; the Island Secretary, who is a public officer serving ex officio; one member appointed by the Governor; two members chosen by the elected members; and two non-voting advisory members (one chosen by the Governor, the other by the rest of the Council).

5. The Internal Committee is composed of an elected chairman and any other members the Island Council may appoint. Its principal function is to organize and implement the work programme.

6. The Island Court consists of the Island Magistrate and two councillors. Its jurisdiction is limited to offences committed in territorial waters by residents of the Territory in contravention of the Island Code and civil actions. There is provision for appeal to the Supreme Court of Pitcairn, which the Governor has the power to constitute and which has jurisdiction in cases outside the competence of the Island Court. The Island Court is rarely required to sit. During the period under review, no court cases were held.

Consideration by the General Assembly

7. In a statement to the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly on 23 October 1989, 2/ the representative of the United Kingdom stated that regardless of the size of the Territory and the number of people involved, the wish of the inhabitants had remained the guiding principle of his Government's policy. The Government's aim was to ensure that the people decided for themselves their political future and that they determined whether they wished to exercise their right to independence or to opt for some other status. The peoples of the remaining British dependent Territories had chosen to retain their links with the United Kingdom because that was what they wanted. Each Territory had its own problems but was in a position, through its own democratic political structure and procedures, to reach a decision on its future relationship with the United Kingdom.

8. The United Kingdom representative further stated that his Government could not tell those people what constitutional status they should choose and how and when they should change their present status. In cases where independence was the clear and constitutionally expressed wish of the people concerned, the United Kingdom remained ready to respond positively, a position which was known and understood through the Territories. In the case of the British dependent Territories, the United Kingdom remained responsible for their external relations, defence and security. It also had obligations towards the Territories under Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations, which it continued to take seriously and to observe scrupulously. In all other respects, the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in practice governed themselves through democratically elected systems of government. 2/

9. On 11 December 1989, by its decision 44/427 on the question of Pitcairn which was adopted by consensus, the General Assembly reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of Pitcairn to self-determination in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which fully applies to the Territory. The Assembly further reaffirmed the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory and urged the administering Power to continue to respect the very individual life-style that the people of the Territory had chosen and to preserve, promote and protect it.

## III. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

10. Pitcairn has an area of 452 hectares, largely covered with secondary bush interspersed with grass, family gardens and fruit trees. Because the population is relatively stable, land use has varied little in recent years. Adamstown settlement occupies about 24 hectares. The remaining land is classified as suitable for gardens or arable farming (117 hectares), forest (77 hectares) and non-arable cliffs and rock ledges (121 hectares). Land is family-owned; ownership is usually gained by inheritance but the law allows for leasehold arrangements and "borrow" land. The Lands and Administration of Estates Ordinance provides, inter alia, for ownership and registration of land.

11. Most food and staples are imported, supplemented by limited local produce. Pitcairn's principal sources of income continued to be postage stamp sales and revenue from interest and dividends.

12. During fiscal year 1988/89, Pitcairn recorded a budget surplus of $NZ 49,100 with total revenues amounting to $NZ 1.099,100 3/. (During 1987/88 its budget surplus had amounted to some $NZ 120,000 compared to the budget deficit of $NZ 8,000 in 1986/87.) During the period under review, revenue from stamp sales rose from $NZ 448,454 to $NZ 607,900, representing an increase of $NZ 159,446 over the previous period. Revenue from interest and dividends declined from $NZ 395,230 in the previous period to $NZ 328,800. Miscellaneous revenue has continued to increase over the past three years. During 1988/89 it more than doubled to $NZ 162,400 compared to $NZ 79,000 in 1987/88 and $NZ 38,000 in 1986/87. Minor fees are collected for licences to possess firearms and to drive motor vehicles.

13. In 1988/89 expenditures were as follows (with 1987/88 figures in parentheses): island administration, $NZ 376,500 ($NZ 288,000); postal services, $NZ 328,800 ($NZ 196,000); public works and marine operations, $NZ 169,600 ($NZ 186,000); medical services, $NZ 71,800 ($NZ 44,000); education, $NZ 60,600 ($NZ 48,000); and agriculture $NZ 7,100 ($NZ 6,000). Expenditure on island administration included allowances and wages for local government officials, local services, freight, shipping fees and general administrative expenses, including a contribution to headquarters at Auckland.

14. Most imports are for home use, consisting mainly of cereals, eggs, fats, meats, milk, sugar, machinery, fuel, lubricating oil and building materials. Exports continued to consist of handicrafts, fruits and vegetables, which are sold mainly to passing vessels.

15. During the period under review, responsibility for agriculture continued to be vested in the Head Forester, who has two part-time assistants. There are a few goats on the island and some poultry is kept for domestic consumption. A tractor with a driver and implements are available for hire to assist in garden cultivation. Seeds and pesticides are available at cost from the forestry department. Honey bees, introduced over the past 10 years, provide small quantities of honey for domestic consumption and their pollination of tree and garden crops has increased production.

16. Adequate protection of flora and fauna is provided by local ordinances. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora applies to the Pitcairn Islands. At its twelfth session in December 1988, the World Heritage Committee added Henderson Island to its World Heritage List.

17. Subsistence fishing is one of the main occupations of the islanders. Under the Fisheries Zone Ordinance of 1980, Pitcairn declared a 200-mile fisheries zone around the island. Two fishing licences were issued in 1988.



READEX FICHE

18. Electricity is supplied by three government-owned diesel generators, with a total power output of 140 kVA. The three generators supply power for public lighting (including navigational lights) and the Government sells power to private homes in Adamstown. The Government operates two generators, one 9.25-kVA and one 8-kVA diesel, to meet school and telecommunications requirements. According to the current annual report, preliminary inquiries have been initiated on electric power requirements for the next decade, with a view to replacing or expanding the present power-generating facility.

19. Pitcairn, which is surrounded by very rough seas, has no sheltered bay for anchorage. Difficulties often encountered in unloading cargo and passengers from passing ships led the administering Power to construct a jetty at Bounty Bay. It became operational in 1977 and was repaired in 1983 at a cost of approximately £300,000. 4/

20. Sea communication is maintained by one shipping company which makes approximately four calls per year on vessels travelling between New Zealand and Panama. Other cargo vessels made unscheduled calls. During 1988, 37 cargo vessels, 1 naval vessel, 4 cruise ships, 11 other vessels and 22 yachts stopped at the island for periods ranging from a few hours to three weeks.

21. Letter, parcel post and postal facilities are available. There are telephone connections between private houses, the school and some public buildings. There is a radio-telephone service and a telegraph service with international toll circuits via New Zealand.

## IV. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

22. According to the annual report of the administering Power for the period under review, there are no social problems of a racial or cultural nature. Women share equal status with men and participate fully in the work and leisure activities of the community. There are no obstacles to personal or corporate freedoms and Pitcairn's legislation meets the requirements of the United Nations conventions on human rights.

23. The population is self-employed. Allowances and wages are paid to members of the community who participate in local government activities. A committee, under a publicly elected chairman, supervises the performance of limited communal services. There is no permanent labour force and the rate of payment for casual work, usually for the local administration, rose to $NZ 1.65 per hour in 1988/89 from $NZ 1.46 in 1987/88. The community meets its basic needs from the soil, the sea and private trading.

24. Housing is of varied standards; a mixture of local and imported materials is used. Building permits are issued by the Island Council. The cost of building materials is subsidized dollar for dollar by the Government. Over the past three years, five new houses were built and major improvements were made to four others.

25. A consumer's co-operative society, established in 1967 with a membership of about 20, owns the only shop in the Territory which provides basic foodstuffs and staples. Sales for 1988/89 amounted to $NZ 43,081.36. There are currently about 30 members of the co-operative.

26. During the period under review, two doctors were recruited to act as Medical Officer for a total of 6 1/2 months. For the remainder of the year, a registered nurse was responsible for health care. Professional advice and assistance may also be obtained from surgeons on passing ships. There is a well-equipped government clinic run by a registered nurse in co-operation with a church organization.

27. The Government meets the cost of medical supplies and drugs. If medical treatment is required outside Pitcairn, compassionate grants or loans are available from public funds. Pensions are paid to persons 65 years of age and over. A widow's benefit was introduced during 1983/84. Total health expenditure in 1988/89 amounted to $NZ 71,800 (representing approximately 7 per cent of total recurrent expenditure) compared to $NZ 44,000 for the previous period. There are no prevalent diseases; a small number of people are receiving treatment for diabetes.

## V. EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

28. There is one school, controlled and financed by the Government. Education is free and attendance is compulsory for all children between 5 and 15 years of age. During the period under review, expenditure on education amounted to $NZ 60,600 (representing approximately 6 per cent of total recurrent expenditure) compared to $NZ 48,000 for the previous period. In 1988/89, the school roll was composed of eight girls and four boys. Instruction is in English and is based on the New Zealand standard curriculum. Post-primary education is conducted at the school by correspondence courses arranged through the New Zealand Department of Education. During 1988, two post-primary pupils attended school in New Zealand at government expense.

29. By arrangement with the International Division of the New Zealand Department of Education, a trained teacher (education officer) is seconded for two-year terms. The Island Council and the Seventh-Day Adventist Church are represented on the School Management Board. Internal examinations are conducted by the education officer, and the Governor may prescribe external examinations and arrange for inspections.

## Notes

1/ The information contained in this paper has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations on 22 August 1989 for the year ending 31 March 1989.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Fourth Committee, 14th meeting, paras. 6-9.

3/ The local currency is the New Zealand dollar ($NZ); during 1988/89, $NZ 1.00 was equivalent to approximately $US 0.50.

4/ Pacific Islands Monthly, December 1986.

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REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES
AND PEOPLES

# PITCAIRN

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

## Corrigendum

Page 7

Footnote 3/ should read

3/ The local currency is the New Zealand dollar ($NZ); during 1988/89, $NZ 1.00 was equivalent to approximately $US 0.60.

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# ST. HELENA

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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# ST. HELENA 1/

## I. GENERAL

1. The Territory of St. Helena, which is administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, consists of the island of St. Helena and two dependencies: the island of Ascension and a group of islands forming the dependency of Tristan da Cunha.

2. Situated in the South Atlantic Ocean, approximately 1,900 kilometres from Angola and 2,900 kilometres from Brazil, the Territory covers a total land area of 412 square kilometres. Ascension lies 1,200 kilometres to the north-west of St. Helena, and Tristan da Cunha and the other five small islands forming that dependency are approximately 2,400 kilometres to the south of it. St. Helena, where Jamestown, the capital of the Territory, is located, is the largest island, with an area of 122 square kilometres.

3. The estimated population of St. Helena, excluding its dependencies, was 5,500 as of 1987. 2/ Approximately one third is resident in Jamestown. The next largest communities are situated at Long Wood, in the east of the island, and at Half Tree Hollow, in the north-west. The remainder of the population live in small cottage communities or single cottages.

## II. CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

### A. General

4. A detailed account of conditions and constitutional and political developments relating to St. Helena and its dependencies was provided in the 1988 and 1989 working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/938 and A/AC.109/978).

### B. Future status

5. In a statement to the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly on 23 October 1989, 3/ the representative of the United Kingdom stated that, regardless of the size of the Territory and the number of people involved, the wish of the inhabitants had remained the guiding principle of his Government's policy. Its aim was to ensure that the people decided for themselves what kind of political future they wanted. It was up to them to determine whether they wished to exercise their right to independence, or whether they wished instead to opt for some other status. The peoples of the remaining British dependent Territories had chosen to retain their links with the United Kingdom. His Government remained ready to respond positively in cases where independence was the constitutionally expressed wish of the people concerned.

## C. Action by the General Assembly

6. In his statement made in the Fourth Committee on 25 October 1989, in explanation of vote before the vote on the draft decision on the question of St. Helena, 4/ the representative of the United Kingdom stated that in previous years his delegation had sought the deletion from the draft decision of the most offensive sentence, namely, the reference to military facilities on Ascension Island. It had also made clear that other sentences were unacceptable to it. This year, it had concluded that the draft decision was simply beyond redemption. His delegation would therefore not seek a paragraph-by-paragraph vote but would instead vote against the text as a whole for the following reasons. First, Ascension Island had no indigenous population and was more than 1,000 kilometres from St. Helena. Its links with St. Helena were purely administrative. It was not even on the Fourth Committee's agenda. Therefore his Government could not accept that the very limited military facilities on Ascension Island should be regarded as a source of concern to anyone, least of all to the people of St. Helena. It was ludicrous to suggest otherwise. Secondly, concern was expressed about the so-called trade and transportation dependence of the Territory on South Africa. In reality, that amounted to a solitary cargo vessel, which plied the route between London, St. Helena and the only suitable port in the vicinity, Cape Town. As for the reminder that the United Kingdom should not involve St. Helena in offensive acts or interference by South Africa against neighbouring States, his delegation found it impossible to imagine what in concrete terms the drafters of that sentence had in mind, beyond their own political agenda. Thirdly, the draft decision demonstrated all too clearly how detached the Special Committee's consideration had become from the reality in St. Helena. It disregarded totally what the British Government was doing there. His Government was firmly involved, for example, in implementing a wide range of infrastructure and development projects in St. Helena, including fisheries, forestry, handicrafts, agriculture and the vital areas of transport and communications. The British Government had rendered assistance to St. Helena in 1989 totalling £21 million, or about £3,800 - nearly $US 6,000 - per head. By contrast, it was aware of no assistance rendered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to St. Helena.

7. On 11 December 1989, the General Assembly adopted, by a recorded vote of 122 in favour and 2 against, with 27 abstentions, decision 44/428 on the question of St. Helena. By that decision, the Assembly urged the administering Power, in consultation with the Legislative Council and other representatives of the people of St. Helena, to continue to take all necessary steps to ensure the speedy implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in respect of the Territory and, in that connection, reaffirmed the importance of promoting an awareness among the people of St. Helena of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination. In view of the serious developments in South Africa, the Assembly noted with concern the trade and transportation dependence of the Territory on South Africa. The Assembly also noted with deep concern the continued presence of military facilities on the dependency of Ascension Island and urged the administering Power to take all the necessary measures not to involve the Territory in any offensive acts or interference against neighbouring States by the racist régime of South Africa.

## III. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

### A. General

8. St. Helena possesses few natural resources. Agriculture, largely of a subsistence nature, is the main economic activity on St. Helena. Food production is insufficient to supply the island's needs and this, together with the lack of manufacturing industries, results in the importation of the vast majority of its requirements.

9. The cost of living in St. Helena is thus markedly higher than in the United Kingdom; it has been reported that goods overall were 30 per cent more expensive after transport. 5/ There is no value-added tax on St. Helena; import duties and the mark-up on non-food items offset that, however.

### B. Public finance

10. The main items of estimated revenue and expenditure for 1987-1989 were as follows:

(In thousands of St. Helena pounds) a/

| | 1987/88 | 1988/89 b/ |
|---|---|---|
| Revenue | | |
| Direct taxes | 465.6 | 488.5 |
| Indirect taxes | 650.6 | 798.6 |
| Fines, fees and charges | 164.0 | 170.7 |
| Government rents and hires | 124.6 | 65.5 |
| Earnings of Government | 267.3 | 236.1 |
| Treasury receipts | 493.1 | 396.5 |
| Other | 44.1 | 50.0 |
| Total ordinary revenue | 2 209.3 | 2 205.9 |
| Grant-in-aid | 2 300.3 | 3 542.5 |
| Total | 4 509.6 | 5 748.4 |
| Expenditure | | |
| Government | 638.6 | 814.2 |
| Treasury and customs | 482.3 | 740.4 |
| Pensions and gratuities | 167.9 | 234.0 |
| Education | 575.9 | 633.2 |
| Public health | 722.9 | 675.7 |
| Social services | 639.3 | 660.2 |
| Agriculture and forestry | 694.3 | 737.5 |
| Public works and services | 1 131.7 | 1 220.0 |
| Other | 93.3 | 33.2 |
| Total | 5 146.2 | 5 748.4 |

a/ The local currency is the St. Helena pound, which is equivalent to the pound sterling. St. Helena currency notes introduced in 1976, and United Kingdom coins are legal tender.

b/ Estimated.

11. The principal forms of taxation are income tax; withholding tax, payable by non-residents on incomes accruing in or deriving from the Territory, at a current rate of 25 per cent; personal tax, levied on persons whose incomes from outside St. Helena exceed £1,250 (married) or £950 (single), at the rate of £200 per annum for a single person and £400 per annum for a married person; and entertainment tax, charged on the price of admission to public entertainment at the rate of 20 per cent.

12. The Territory's statement of assets and liabilities at 31 March 1989 stood as follows:

(St. Helena pounds)

| Liabilities | | Assets | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deposits | 2 001 160 | Cash held locally by Ascension and Crown Agents, London | 1 516 022 |
| Special funds | 21 995 | | |
| Savings Bank | 3 972 279 | Development: Special funds | 21 455 |
| Other funds | 182 768 | | |
| Consolidated Fund | 57 121 | Development: Savings Bank | 3 643 986 |
| | | Development Fund | -78 529 |
| | | Advances | 900 487 |
| | | Trading account | 231 902 |
| Total | 6 235 323 | | 6 235 323 |

## C. Development projects

13. The St. Helena development programme is financed mainly through the overseas aid programme of the United Kingdom Government. Detailed proposals for individual projects are discussed in the context of the annual budget (after negotiations between the Island Administration and the Overseas Development Administration (ODA)) by the Executive Council, and subsequently ratified at the budget session of the Legislative Council.

14. A new power station costing £1.5 million and financed from development funds was opened in 1986. Further development funds have been allocated to replace or upgrade power-transmission lines. The system is also being extended to the communities at Blue Hill and Sandy Bay. The installed capacity of the new station is 1,712 megawatts. The two power stations generated a total of 3,427,173 kilowatt-hours during the period under review.

15. As previously reported (see A/AC.109/913, para. 9), in 1985 a major water development and agricultural improvement project was approved at a cost of £920,000 over a four-year period, to be financed by ODA.

16. UNDP has provided $US 695,000 to finance a five-year term (1987-1992) livestock development programme, preliminary activities of which began in 1987. The long-term objective of the project is to provide St. Helena with an efficient and effective livestock industry, as well as to provide productive employment, increase agricultural incomes and make the island largely self-sufficient in pig and cattle feeds.

Development aid expenditure - 1987-1989

(In thousands of St. Helena pounds)

| Projects | Approved total grant | | Expenditure | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1987/88 | 1988/89 | 1987/88 | 1988/89 |
| Agriculture and forestry: | | | | |
| (a) Pasture improvement | 408.5 | 632.0 | 58.4 | 60.2 |
| (b) Extension services | 75.0 | 75.0 | 5.7 | 7.1 |
| (c) Forestry | 1 066.1 | 1 164.0 | 257.5 | 240.1 |
| Public utilities: | | | | |
| (a) Water supply | 932.0 | 1 000.5 | 186.8 | 76.8 |
| (b) Electric supply (power station) | 1 300.0 | -- | -- | -- |
| Agriculture Development Authority | 145.0 | 145.0 | 2.4 | 2.0 |
| Fisheries | 800.0 | -- | 45.4 | -- |
| Plant and equipment | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Social and administrative services | 5 669.2 | 5 310.0 | 689.1 | 632.8 |
| Small Industries Authority | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Administrative and miscellaneous services | 1 830.0 | 1 892.0 | 190.2 | 44.4 |
| Total | 12 225.8 | 10 218.5 | 1 435.5 | 1 063.4 |

17. The European Economic Community, UNDP and the World Health Organization (WHO) are among the aid donors that have expressed an interest in funding further development projects.

## D. Agriculture, land tenure and livestock

18. The total area of the island is 122 square kilometres (12,173 hectares), approximately two thirds of which is unutilized. The remainder, according to 1985 figures, can be broadly classified as follows:

| | Hectares |
|---|---|
| Pasture | 1 270 |
| Woodlands and forests | 1 380 |
| Cultivated lands | 180 |
| New Zealand flax (Phormium tenax) | 790 |

19. Some 66 per cent of the pasture is government owned, 14 per cent quasi government owned, and the remaining 20 per cent privately owned.

20. The Territory is not self-sufficient in food. All crops grown are food or fodder crops. The principal crops are common and sweet potatoes, vegetables, fodder crops, and fruits, notably bananas.

Agricultural production, 1987-1989

(Production by value, in pounds sterling)

| | 1987/88 | 1988/89 |
|---|---|---|
| Potatoes | 179 712 | 187 200 |
| Fruits, including bananas | 26 880 | 13 440 |
| Vegetables | 323 400 | 237 160 |
| Sweet potatoes | 44 160 | 36 800 |
| Fodder crops | 10 920 | 15 680 |
| Total | 585 072 | 490 280 |

21. Assistance for agricultural production is provided by the Agricultural Assistance Revolving Fund loan scheme, administered by the Agriculture and Forestry Services. The Fund has over £43,000 available for loans, at 6 per cent interest per annum. The Agriculture and Forestry Department also offers assistance to newly independent farmers in the form of three-day wage payments for up to two years, while they are becoming established.

22. Agricultural research has expanded and improved during the period under review, as a result of increased training and financing. The research work has identified legumes as being appropriate for pasture improvement, the fertilizer needs of pastures and trees suitable for dry-land afforestation.

23. Agricultural extension has been improved by the appointment of an extension/training officer to work with the Department in livestock, pest control and agronomy.

24. The number of employees involved in agriculture and livestock and the estimated expenditure during 1988-1989 are set out below.

| Service | Established staff | | Estimated expenditure (Thousands of St. Helena pounds) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1988 | 1989 | 1988 | 1989 |
| General and administrative | 15 | 16 | 44.9 | 49.4 |
| Agronomy | 1 | 1 | 4.9 | 4.7 |
| Extension and pest control | 3 | 3 | 7.2 | 7.6 |
| Livestock services | 3 | 3 | 7.5 | 7.4 |
| Forestry services | 4 | 4 | 10.4 | 12.8 |
| Youth training and horticultural centres | 2 | 2 | 7.6 | 6.9 |
| Transport and mechanical services | 1 | 1 | 5.6 | 5.8 |
| | 29 | 30 | 88.1 | 94.6 |
| Part-time labour | a/ | a/ | a/ | a/ |
| Development aid projects (labour) | 1 846 | 1 541 | 321.6 | 302.5 |

a/ Not specified.

25. The principal kinds of livestock of the Territory are cattle, sheep and pigs. Livestock production from 1986 to 1989 was as follows:

| | 1987/88 | 1988/89 |
|---|---|---|
| Cattle | 1 157 | 381 |
| Sheep | 1 158 | 393 |
| Pigs | 606 | 1 100 |

26. There is some processing of pork products, but it is insufficient to meet local demand. No use is made of hide and wool, although some wool clip is occasionally exported.

27. Subsidized-cost veterinary treatment is offered to all livestock owners by the Agriculture and Forestry Department.

## E. Forestry

28. A detailed account of the objectives of St. Helena's forestry policy was provided in the 1988 working paper prepared by the Secretariat (A/AC.109/938, para. 34). Supplementary information is provided below.

29. During the period under review, more land was made available for forestry purposes, and weather conditions allowed tree planting to start early. At the end of the planting season there were 57,304 trees planted. Income from sales of timber and posts during 1988/89 amounted to £24,585.

30. The dry-land afforestation continued to make steady progress, with digging of contour trenches, planting of aloes and direct seed-sowing. A large number of seeds have germinated, and prospects are promising. In order to reduce the need for weeding, which is one of the major problems and is very labour-intensive, chemical spraying was used with very satisfactory results. The flax-land forest, previously privately owned, was purchased by the St. Helena Government for designation as a national forest. A new Highland tractor/trailer has proved of immense value in handling the increased log production from both State and private forests.

31. An intensive nursery and propagation training course on the future development and endemic plant regeneration of St. Helena's flora was being undertaken by a St. Helenian at the Royal Botanical Gardens in London.

Forestry production

(Pounds sterling)

| | 1987/88 | 1988/89 |
|---|---|---|
| Sawn timber (mixed species) | 31 446 | 24 885 |
| Firewood | 19 083 | 16 986 |
| Total | 50 529 | 41 871 |

## F. Fisheries

32. The principal resource of the Territory is its fishing industry. The St. Helena Fisheries Corporation, a statutory body, was set up in 1979 to make the best use of the marine rsources of the islands. Its employees, excluding fishermen, decreased from 72 in 1987/88 to 67 in 1988/89. There are facilities for freezing, storing and processing fish. There were 18 full-time and 5 part-time fishermen at 31 March 1989. Fifteen fishing vessels were used on a full-time basis and 18 on a part-time basis. In addition, the St. Helena Government has initiated and financed a youth training programme geared to local needs. The programme employs up to six youths per year. A laboratory technician was continuing her studies for the Higher National Diploma in Food Technology at Humberside College in the United Kingdom.

33. During 1985/86, a salt-drying complex, capable of handling a daily output of 5 metric tons, was completed. It was expected that the complex would have an output of 500 metric tons by 1986/87. A small frozen-fish export market has been found in the United Kingdom for a limited number of species, and some 150 metric tons per annum can be exported. 6/

34. The volume of catch during 1988/89 was: 102.00 metric tons of tuna, 8.92 of wahoo, 35.46 of grouper, 21.32 of mackerel, 246.42 of skipjack and 1.3 of lobster. Local sales and exports of fish from 1986 to 1989 were as follows:

| Year | Local sales | Exports |
|---|---|---|
| | (thousands of pounds sterling) | |
| 1986/87 | 98.3 (107 metric tons) | 85.7 (85 metric tons) |
| 1988/89 | 105.8 (117 metric tons) | 88.1 (92 metric tons) |

35. The offshore exploratory fishing survey, which began in 1985/86, to identify the fishing resources and potential of the seas around St. Helena's 200-mile zone (see A/AC.109/938, para. 42) was completed. The survey was used to gather basic marine biology, oceanographic and fisheries data from within the prescribed zone. A survey was also conducted on purse-seine trials of skipjack.

36. Another survey funded by ODA to establish the extent of the Territory's lobster resources and their distribution (see A/AC.109/938, para. 44) has been completed. A proposal for a second phase, setting out a programme for the expansion of the fishing fleet of St. Helena and for the handling, processing and expansion of workshop facilities, over a period of three years, has been submitted to ODA. A visiting ODA Senior Fisheries Advisor supported the proposed second phase of the Onshore Development Project. The Budgetary Aid Review team also supported the proposal.

## G. Industries

37. There is no large-scale industry on St. Helena. All crafts are practised on a cottage-industry basis, with technical, financial and marketing facilities provided for by the Government, through the Home Industries Section. A brewery opened in 1982 was producing at an average of 1,318 litres per month by 31 March 1988. During the period under review, the brewery suffered a downward trend in production and sales which, at 31 March 1989, did not exceed £9,200, compared with £14,600 at 31 March 1988. There is no industrial development financed by outside investment.

## H. Mining

38. There is no significant mining activity in the Territory, and such minerals as have been found to exist are not in sufficient quantity to be worth exploiting. Some guano is extracted for use as fertilizer. A geological survey of the Territory was conducted in 1968. In 1981, a London University team visited St. Helena to study the geomorphology of the Territory.

## I. Transport and communications

39. There is no airport or airstrip on St. Helena, and no railway. The only port is Jamestown, which provides good anchorage for ships of any size. The island's main link with the outside world continued to be the RMS St. Helena, which is owned and chartered by the St. Helena Shipping Company, Ltd., and which plies between Avonmouth in the United Kingdom and Cape Town in South Africa, with calls at the Cape Verde islands and Ascension. The service receives an annual subsidy of some £2 million from the United Kingdom. During the period under review, RMS St. Helena made six round-trip voyages and a number of shuttles between St. Helena and Ascension Island to transport workers. There were 17 calls by cargo-passenger mail vessels during the same period, 9 calls by other vessels, some of which were to land crew members requiring medical attention, and 137 calls by yachts.

40. In June 1987, the United Kingdom Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and Minister for Overseas Development stated that tender documents had been issued to a number of shipbuilding firms inviting bids for the construction of a replacement vessel for the St. Helena service. 7/ The initial cost of the new vessel is estimated at £18 million to £20 million. In December 1987, it was announced that the contract had been awarded to Hall Russell, Ltd., of Aberdeen,

United Kingdom, subject to contract negotiations. 8/ In November 1988, Hall Russell went into receivership and in February 1989, the joint receivers sold its assets. Subsequently, a contract to complete the ship was concluded by the Overseas Development Administration, acting on behalf of the Government of St. Helena, with the yard's new owner, A. and P. Appledore (Aberdeen), Ltd. The ship was scheduled to be launched on 31 October 1989. 9/

41. The construction of new roads and the upgrading of existing ones continued to form a significant part of both recurrent and development expenditure. Ten new roads were built during the period under review, bringing the length of surfaced roads in the Territory to 98 kilometres.

42. An automatic telephone exchange with an associated-line plant, capable of connecting 600 subscribers, was commissioned in April 1983. As of 1989, there are 556 subscribers connected to the automatic system and 21 subscribers on the manual system in the rural areas. Normal telegraph facilities, international telephones and telex lines are operated by Cable and Wireless, Ltd.

43. Since 1981, the fuel requirements of the island have been met by a small tanker, which brings in bulk supplies from the Canary Islands and acts as a floating storage depot.

## J. Banking and credit

44. The only bank is the Government Savings Bank. Limited credit facilities for house building and home improvement are made available on very easy terms through the Government Housing Loans Board and the Government Savings Bank. Total deposits in the Government Savings Bank as at 31 March 1989 amounted to £3,077,399, compared with £2,664,792 at 31 March 1988. All financial transactions are ultimately channelled through London, and United Kingdom rates apply. Local currency in circulation at 31 March 1989 was £2,329,447.

## K. International trade

45. St. Helena's main imports are food products and tobacco, motor spirits and fuel oil, animal feed, building materials, motor vehicles, machinery and spare parts. Its only exports are fish and handicrafts. Its main trading partners remain the United Kingdom and South Africa, which supply 60 and 32 per cent, respectively, of all imports. Others include Brazil, which provides 1.6 per cent of imports, and Ascension. During 1986/87, total imports to the Territory were valued at £5,048,710, compared with £5,212,145 in 1985/86.

## IV. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

### A. General

46. Living standards are improving in St. Helena as various development projects continue to employ both skilled and unskilled workers. Also, wages remitted to St. Helena by workers on Ascension and the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (see para. 101) have enabled many families to build new homes or to improve the standard of existing ones. However, the rate of inflation continued to increase. The retail price index at 1 March 1989 stood at 105.3 (November 1988 = 100).

47. Offshore savings have been utilized by individual families to improve their personal living standards, and the extension of electricity to the more remote parts of the island has increased the sales of electric equipment generally.

48. According to the administering Power, there are no racial or cultural problems in the Territory, which consists of a homogeneous English-speaking community with a single education system.

49. The Social Welfare Department of the Territory is headed by a social welfare officer who is also responsible for children's services, school attendance, probation and employment.

### B. Labour

50. The majority of the labour force works for the Government, which, in order to prevent unemployment, employs people through labour-intensive development projects financed from United Kingdom aid funds. Employment on Ascension Island provides a major outlet for the labour force, given the limitations of the productive sectors on St. Helena. The number of St. Helenians employed on Ascension was reported as follows:

| Sector | Number of employees 1987/88 | 1989/89 |
|---|---|---|
| United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)/Bendix | -- | 30 |
| Cable and Wireless, Ltd. | 21 | 19 |
| Computer Service Raythor | -- | 169 |
| Pan American World Services | 199 | -- |
| British Broadcasting Corporation | 79 | 53 |
| NAAFI | -- | 3 |
| South Atlantic Cable Company | 2 | 2 |
| Volcano Club and Composite Signal Services | 36 | 7 |
| Ascension Island Services | 135 | 126 |
| Property Services Agency | 64 | 55 |
| Government | a/ | 16 |
| | 536 | 480 |

a/ Not specified.

51. No males over the age of 15 are registered as wholly unemployed. Every boy, on leaving school at the age of 15, and if not otherwise employed on the island of Ascension, is provided with full-time employment on a development project. Part-time employment is also provided. As of 31 March 1989, there were 115 men and women under 60 years of age employed as "three-day workers". These included part-time cultivators or fishermen augmenting their earnings out of season.

52. The St. Helena General Workers Union, the only trade union in the Territory, is affiliated with the International Conference of Labour Unions and with the Trade Union Congress of the United Kingdom.

53. The principal categories of wage-earners were agricultural labourers, skilled and general labourers, building tradesmen and apprentices, fishermen and boatmen, mechanics, engineers and motor drivers.

54. The average weekly rates of pay as of March 1989 were as follows:

| | Government | Commercial |
|---|---|---|
| | (St. Helena pounds) | |
| Agricultural labour | 35.85-36.95 | 38.00 |
| General labour | 35.85-36.95 | 38.00 |
| Skilled labour | 40.20-46.70 | 42.80-50.80 |
| Apprentices | 16.90-21.95 | 20.80 |

55. The majority of employees work an average of 37 1/2 hours from Monday to Friday. Government office workers work 35 hours a week, 5 days a week. In the commercial sector, working hours vary from 40 to 45 hours over 5 1/2 days. There are six official holidays in the year.

56. No migrant labourers are employed on St. Helena, except for a small number of expatriates employed in the public service. Work permits are required and are granted only if suitable St. Helenians are not available.

## C. Housing

57. There is a most pressing need for housing on the island. A survey conducted by the Environmental Health Department of the St. Helena Government has indicated that special expenditure of approximately £7 million, spread over several years, will be necessary to meet existing needs. Eleven new two-bedroom bungalows were constructed during the period under review, funded by development aid. The Housing Assistance Board continues to utilize limited finances from the surplus funds of the Government Savings Bank to provide loans at 8 per cent interest. The amount available is, however, insufficient to meet the demand.

## D. Public health

58. According to the administering Power, the general state of health of the population is good and its nutritional status is generally satisfactory.

59. There is an active vaccination programme which provides immunization against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and poliomyelitis to pre-school children. Tetanus immunization is offered to all age groups, and immunization against German measles is offered to all girls in their early teens.

60. The Public Health Committee of the Legislative Council is responsible for the public health services of the Territory. There is a 54-bed General Hospital at Jamestown, a mental hospital at Half Tree Hollow and several rural health clinics. The Public Health Department has a senior medical officer, two medical officers and a dentist on its staff. Specialists pay regular visits to the island and patients are referred abroad for major surgical operations. There are no formal institutions for health training in the Territory, although the General Hospital provides training for nurses.

61. There were 731 persons admitted to hospital and 56 deaths in hospital during the period 1 April 1988 to 31 March 1989. The main causes of death are hypertension, diabetes and cancer. The main causes of infant mortality are congenital abnormalities and prematurity.

62. The water-sewage system continues to function satisfactorily. Piped water-supply systems are being extended and three water-purification plants have been installed to bring the quality of the piped water up to internationally accepted standards. A small satellite scheme to bring piped water to lower Sandy Bay was started during the period under review, as well as new pipe works to supply the Blue Hill and High Hill areas.

63. A major campaign of dental health education in the schools, run by the dental officer, the dental hygienist and two dental surgery assistants concurrently with a major campaign run by the Dental Department, achieved considerable success in improving the dental health of the schoolchildren.

64. There is an antenatal care programme, and virtually all expectant mothers attend clinics regularly. Family planning activities are expanding and are available, free of charge, to any applicant.

65. Recurrent expenditure on public health for 1988/89 amounted £723,674, compared with £574,600 in 1987/88.

## E. Social security and welfare

66. At the end of March 1989, 463 needy persons were receiving social benefit payments in cash in amounts varying from £4.90 to £33.20 per week. In addition, six large families were receiving financial assistance at rates varying from £5.50 to £14.34 per week.

67. Annual budgetary provisions for social security and welfare for the period 1988/89 were as follows:

Allocation

(In thousands of St. Helena pounds)

| Sector | 1988/89 |
|---|---|
| General and administration (including social assistance) | 467.5 |
| Children's Home | 23.6 |
| Old People's Home | 75.9 |
| Recreational facilities | 27.7 |
| Total | 594.7 |

## F. Education

68. In 1941, the Government assumed responsibility for all education on St. Helena which had formerly been provided by the Anglican Church, the main pioneer in the field since the mid-nineteenth century. All schools are directly controlled by the Government Education Department, with special powers given to the Education Committee. The schools are administered by the Chief Education Officer, assisted by three education officers, two assistant education officers, an administrative assistant, a chief clerk and three other clerks. During the period under review, illiteracy in the Territory was estimated at 1 per cent of the total population 10 years of age and over.

69. Education is free. Attendance is compulsory for all children between the ages of 5 and 15 years, but the power to exempt children over 14 years lies with the Education Committee. There are 12 schools in the Territory. The number of teachers in 1989 was 114, 9 of whom were St. Helenians. In 1988/89, the school enrolment totalled 1,208 (1,199 indigenous). The distribution of pupils among schools was as follows:

| | Indigenous | | Non-indigenous | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| First schools a/ | 229 | 244 | 4 | 3 |
| Middle schools b/ | 163 | 193 | 1 | 1 |
| Secondary school c/ | 131 | 143 | - | - |
| Vocational training d/ | 43 | 53 | - | - |
| | 566 | 633 | 5 | 4 |

a/ Pupils range from 5 to 8 years of age.

b/ Pupils range from 8 to 12 years of age.

c/ Pupils range from 12 to 15 years of age.

d/ As there is no separate institution, vocational training is provided at a secondary school for students 15-18 years of age.

70. The Education Department has added rural science to its curriculum in secondary schools. In addition, the Agriculture and Forestry Department runs a youth-training scheme, which employs youths from ages 15 to 18 and which is being upgraded to provide full vocational training. A technical training centre has been operating for 14 years and is currently offering courses in masonry, carpentry, joinery and motor mechanics.

71. During 1986, work commenced on the building of the new Central School complex, at an estimated cost of £4.8 million. For 1986/87, the actual recurrent expenditure on education amounted to £629,415, or approximately 7 per cent of total government expenditure. For 1987/88, expenditure amounted to £576,717, or 6 per cent of total government expenditure. Total expenditure on education in 1988/89 amounted to 15 per cent of total government expenditure.

## G. Human rights

72. The principles set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are not embodied in the Constitution of St. Helena but are reflected in the laws of the Territory, which are based on the laws of the United Kingdom. Legal principles and procedures are set out in the civil and criminal procedure codes, which are also based on the laws of the United Kingdom. Local legislation is enacted by the Territory's Legislative Council, which has an elected islander majority. All legislation is subject to review by the Secretary of State in the United Kingdom Government. Anti-discriminatory legislation enacted by the United Kingdom applies

to the Territory. According to the administering Power, it has never been necessary to invoke it, however, as there are no minorities or other groups which require protection. There is free expression of religious and political views.

## H. Status of women

73. According to the administering Power, women are not subject to any discrimination under the law solely because of their sex. The regulations governing the public service guarantee equality of opportunity and conditions of service for men and women.

## I. Crime and crime prevention

74. According to the administering Power, crime statistics for the period 1 January-31 December 1988 were as follows:

| | Adults | | Juvenile | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total |
| Assaults | 15 | 2 | 1 | -- | 18 |
| Thefts/burglaries | 17 | 4 | 6 | -- | 27 |
| Sexual offences | 3 | - | - | -- | 3 |
| Local legislation | 97 | 2 | 2 | -- | 101 |
| | 132 | 8 | 9 | -- | 149 |

75. There is one correctional institution in the Territory which has accommodation for seven male prisoners and a separate wing for two females. During the period under review, 69 adult males and 5 adult females were committed to prison. The maximum prison population on any one day was six persons; sentences ranged from nine months to four years. Prison discipline is covered, inter alia, by the Gaol Rules 1960. Prisoners undergoing sentence in excess of one month can, by good conduct, earn remission up to one third of their sentence. They perform a wide variety of outdoor tasks for the benefit of the community in general. Where necessary, assistance in obtaining employment is given on discharge.

# V. DEPENDENCIES OF ST. HELENA

## A. Tristan da Cunha 10/

### 1. General

76. The island of Tristan da Cunha and the five small uninhabited islands constituting this dependency of St. Helena are among the most isolated in the world. The main island, of volcanic origin, is almost circular in shape, with an area of 99 square kilometres, rising to a central cone 2,060 metres above sea level.

77. Gough Island is about 370 kilometres south-south-east of Tristan da Cunha; Inaccessible and Nightingale and the two adjacent islets, Middle and Stoltenhoff, are about 32 kilometres from it.

78. The climate is temperate and oceanic with rapid weather changes, a wide temperature range and frequent rain. The islands are of considerable scientific interest because of their isolation and their special flora and fauna, which include numerous species not found elsewhere in the world.

79. As at 31 December 1988, when the last census was taken, the indigenous population of Tristan da Cunha, mainly of mixed descent, was 306. There were four births, three deaths and one marriage among the islanders during 1988. The only settlement is Edinburgh, on the north coast.

## 2. Constitutional and political developments

80. The Administrator of Tristan da Cunha, who is also the Magistrate, is appointed by the United Kingdom and is responsible to the Governor of St. Helena for the administration of the dependency. Owing to the absence of direct communications between the two islands, however, the Administrator reports directly to the United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London. The Governor is usually informed of important dispatches which are sent to London.

81. The Administrator is advised by the Island Council, which has advisory functions in legislative and executive matters and which consists of eight elected and three appointed members. The Council meets at intervals of not more than three months. Committees of the Council are elected from among members and other persons appointed to advise on agriculture and natural resources, public health and works, education and social welfare, as well as on postal policies.

82. Elections to the Island Council and for the position of Chief Islander are held every three years. The last elections were held on 23 August 1988. All candidates are required to be over 21 years of age, and one or more of the elected members of the Council is required to be a woman. All persons over 18 years of age are eligible to vote. Eighteen candidates ran for the eight posts in the Council. There was a turnout of 180 persons, or 72 per cent of the registered electorate. The candidate who polled 38 per cent of the vote, a woman, was elected as Chief Islander. There are no political parties on Tristan da Cunha. The next general election is scheduled for 23 August 1991.

## 3. Economic conditions

83. According to the administering Power, the dependency is essentially economically independent and remains in a favourable financial position with reserves equalling about twice the normal annual recurrent expenditure.

84. The main industry of the island is crayfishing, which represents the chief source of employment for the population. Since 1968, the concession for

crayfishing has been held by the South Atlantic Island Development Corporation, a Bermuda-based company, and is operated by the subsidiary Tristan Investments Ltd., of Cape Town. The royalty paid to the island for the concession ($US 294,000 in 1985) is the principal source of government revenue. To monitor the crayfish resources, the concessionnaire operates a tagging programme, the results of which are made available to the Territorial Government and the Overseas Development Administration in London. Fishing regulations aimed at conserving the long-term viability of crayfish stocks were introduced in 1983. Statistics of annual catches have been made available to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

85. The sale of postage stamps and other philatelic items is the island's second largest source of income. The island's unique postage stamps are much sought after by philatelists.

86. An agricultural officer trained in the United Kingdom is employed by the Government to supervise local activities in agriculture and animal husbandry. In 1986, an experimental greenhouse was built in order to extend the seasonal production of vegetables, and soft fruits were imported from the United Kingdom for trial cultivation under local climatic conditions. Potatoes remain the principal crop of the island. There is self-sufficiency in egg production as a result of a government-sponsored project in poultry management. Under the terms of legislation which entered into force on 1 June 1985, the number of cattle has been limited to two head per family, in order to reduce the effects of over-grazing and to preserve pasture lands. As at 31 December 1988, the numbers of cattle and sheep were 379 and 1,829, respectively. There were also small numbers of donkeys and pigs.

87. There was some progress during the period under review in timber production, mainly pine. A small forest plantation in the east of the island provided timber which was used for gates and fencing, as well as for general building work.

88. Private enterprise continued to be encouraged, although limited by the small size of the population. A café and a small potato crisp business are run by some of the women on the island. There is increased involvement in the making of handicrafts, notably knitwear, which are marketed by the government-supported Handicraft Centre.

89. Total recurrent revenue for 1989/90 was estimated at £736,000 and expenditure at £450,000. Main sources of revenue were fishing royalty, interest on investments held in the United Kingdom, sale of stamps and philatelic material and sale of handicrafts. There is no taxation, although all males between the ages of 18 and 65 years pay a nominal tax of 65 pence annually, and a levy on imported alcoholic drinks and cigarettes which is used to subsidize essential foodstuffs. As of 30 June 1989, deposits at the local Post Office Savings Bank amounted to £131,711, representing an increase of £7,510 over the previous year.

## 4. Social conditions

90. According to the administering Power, the standard of living continues to show an upward trend. There is full employment for males and work is available for most women, with either the Government or the fishing industry. There are no trade unions on the island, owing to the limited work force. Wage increases are granted by the Government and by Tristan Investment, Ltd., based on cost-of-living rises calculated on information provided to London by the Government. There is also a government pension scheme to which employees contribute 3.75 per cent of their earnings up to a certain maximum and employers contribute an equivalent amount. Pensions are paid to all persons over 65 years of age, as well as to widows, their dependent children and orphans. Legislation enables pensioners to retain casual earnings of up to 50 per cent of their pensions without deductions from their entitlement. As from 1 July 1988, the married couples' pension has been 55 per cent of the basic government wage.

91. Medical care is provided free of charge by the Government. The local hospital is staffed by a qualified medical officer from the United Kingdom, assisted by three locally trained nursing aides. A qualified dental officer, appointed by ODA, visits the island every other year and attends all islanders requiring treatment. The next visit should take place in 1991. The most prevalent illnesses are asthma, epidemic viral illnesses and musculoskeletal problems. When required, medical treatment is provided overseas.

92. Recurrent expenditure on public health during the period under review amounted to £39,380, or 9.3 per cent of total expenditure, compared with £47,230 or 12 per cent during the previous reporting period.

93. Education is free and compulsory for all children between the ages of 5 and 15 years. Enrolment as of July 1989 (excluding pre-school) was 33 pupils, with one qualified and seven assistant teachers. With regard to adult education, working men and women are encouraged to attend evening classes for further education under a "day-release" programme. Recurrent expenditure on education amounted to £21,000 compared with £22,422 during the previous reporting period.

## 5. Public service

94. There were three expatriate officers from the United Kingdom employed on contract during the period under review: the Administrator, the Medical Officer and the Education Officer. The present policy is to train islanders abroad so that they will be able to fill senior posts in the Government after they obtain the relevant qualifications. During the period under review, one person was undergoing nursing training in the United Kingdom, and another was accepted by Denstone College in the United Kingdom.

## B. Ascension

95. The island of Ascension has an area of 88 square kilometres, is volcanic in origin and is barren, except for the upper slopes of Green Mountain. The climate is tropical but dry, with large variations between the capital, Georgetown, on the west coast, and Green Mountain.

96. Ascension has no indigenous population. Its population varies from year to year according to the availability of local employment, and consists mainly of St. Helenians (also Tristanians) (see para. 50) and United Kingdom and United States expatriates. In December 1988, the population of the island was estimated at 1,035, of whom 683 were St. Helenians, 200 United Kingdom nationals, 139 United States nationals, and 13 others, not including British military personnel. 11/

97. The Advisory Council, composed of representatives of the organizations operating in the island, assists the Administrator in running the island. Some of the organizations are: the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC); the South Atlantic Cable Company, Cable and Wireless, Ltd., NASA and the United States Air Force.

98. During the Second World War, the United States Government established, under agreement with the United Kingdom, an airstrip which was expanded and improved in the 1960s. Since 1956, when a further agreement was concluded between the two Governments, the base has been operated by NASA as part of the United States rocket-tracking system.

99. Ascension was regarrisoned during the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) conflict in 1982. As a result of the conflict, it was reported that several facilities on the island had been further improved and expanded, including the installation of an additional water desalination plant and the laying of a 5-kilometre-long oil pipeline. A new Royal Air Force camp was completed in 1984. 11/ An airstrip near the settlement of Georgetown was being extended in 1985. 12/ Ascension continues to provide a key link to British supply lines to the South Atlantic. 13/

100. The island is an important communications centre serving as a relay station operated by the South Atlantic Cable Company for telegrams between South Africa and Europe, and by Cable and Wireless, Ltd., for international telecommunications. BBC also operates a relay station on the island, and a long-wave broadcasting station has been established.

101. Construction and other forms of development have retained the services of workers from St. Helena (see para. 46). According to the administering Power, as those contracts are completed it is hoped that the workers will be able to accept newly identified vacancies, mostly in construction work and as canteen staff, in the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

102. Green Mountain Farm, which is run by Cable and Wireless, Ltd., produces fresh meat, milk and vegetables. The vast majority of foodstuffs and other items are, however, imported.

103. The island's major source of revenue is the sale of postage stamps. Revenue and expenditure for the year ending 31 March 1987 were £200,111 and £337,434, respectively. 12/

104. Until April 1984, Cable and Wireless, Ltd., operated a school linked to the St. Helena educational system for infants and primary and secondary students. It also provided a resident medical officer and hospital facilities. These and other services, such as the island's power and water supply, have since been taken over by Ascension Island Services.

105. The island is also of considerable scientific interest, as it is a breeding site for the green turtle and various species of sea birds.

## Notes

1/ Information regarding St. Helena and its dependency, Ascension, has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations, on 9 November 1989, for the period 1 April 1988 to 31 March 1989.

2/ Population and Vital Statistics Report: Data available as of 1 October 1989, Statistical Papers, Series A, vol. XLI, No. 4 (ST/ESA/STAT/SER.A/171).

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Fourth Committee, 14th meeting, para. 7.

4/ Ibid., 16th meeting, para. 52.

5/ United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, House of Commons, Parliamentary Debates (Hansard), 21 October 1986, cols. 851 and 852.

6/ Africa South of the Sahara, 1988, 17th ed. (Europa, 1987), p. 815.

7/ United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, House of Commons, Parliamentary Debates (Hansard), 29 June 1987, col. 21.

8/ Ibid., 1 December 1987, col. 483.

9/ United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, House of Commons, Parliamentary Debates (Hansard), vol. 156, No. 136, col. 162.

10/ Information on Tristan da Cunha has been derived from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom under Article 73 e of the Charter, on 6 October 1989, for the period 1 July 1988 to 30 June 1989.

Notes (continued)

11/ The Europa World Year-Book, 1989, vol. II, p. 2787.

12/ The Statesman's Year-Book, 1989-1990, p. 1047.

13/ Africa South of the Sahara, 1988, 17th ed. (Europa, 1987), p. 817.

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# GUAM

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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# GUAM 1/

## I. GENERAL

1. Guam, the southernmost and largest island in the Mariana archipelago, is situated in the western Pacific Ocean about 2,400 kilometres east of Manila. It has a total land area of 540 square kilometres (see map). Agana is the capital city.

2. In 1521, Fernao de Magalhaes, also known as Ferdinand Magellan, a Portuguese explorer sailing under Spanish auspices, reached Guam during his circumnavigation of the globe. Spain later claimed Guam and other Mariana islands in 1565. Spanish colonization commenced in 1668, at which time the Chamorro population was estimated at 50,000 throughout the Mariana archipelago. However, insurrection and pestilence virtually wiped out the Chamorros, reducing their number to less than 2,000 by 1700. The Spanish régime ended in 1898, when United States forces took Guam during the Spanish-American War. 2/

3. From 1899 to 1941, Guam was under United States Naval Administration. At the outbreak of the Second World War, the island was seized by the Japanese. United States forces recaptured it in July 1944, and the United States Naval Administration resumed responsibility for the Territory. 2/

4. Guam's population is growing at an accelerating rate. Since the 1980 census, the population has increased from 105,979 to an estimated 127,675 in 1987, or 23 per cent. If the current growth rate remains constant, the island's population will double by the year 2012. Population density is about 235 per square kilometre. Of the total inhabitants, 103,791 are bona fide local residents and 23,884 are United States military personnel and their dependants. Ethnically, about 50 per cent of the inhabitants are Chamorro; 25 per cent are Filipino; 15 per cent migrated from the United States mainland and 10 per cent are Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Micronesian and Indian. 2/

5. Information on military activities on Guam is contained in document A/AC.109/1018.

## II. CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

### A. General

6. Guam is governed under the Organic Act of 1950, which made it an unincorporated Territory of the United States under the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior and conferred United States citizenship on the Guamanian people.

7. Universal adult suffrage applies to Guamanians 18 years of age and older, but Guamanians are not eligible to vote for President of the United States while resident in the Territory.

8. Since 1972, the Territory has had a non-voting delegate in the United States House of Representatives. Mr. Ben Blaz, a Republican, is currently serving his third two-year term in that capacity. Mr. Blaz was re-elected by 16,397 votes to 13,546 in the November 1988 election. 3/

9. The Government of Guam consists of an executive, a legislative and a judicial branch. Executive power is vested in a Governor who, together with a Lieutenant Governor, is elected for a term of four years. The Governor is responsible for the general supervision and control of all bodies of the executive branch and submits to the Secretary of the Interior an annual report on the transactions of the Government for transmission to the Congress of the United States. The Governor may issue executive orders and regulations, recommend bills to the Legislature, make his views known to that body and veto legislation. In 1986, Senator Joseph F. Ada (Republican) was elected Governor, defeating Mr. Richard J. Bordallo (Democrat), the incumbent.

10. Legislative power is vested in a unicameral body, composed of 21 senators elected by legislative districts for two-year terms. The Legislature may override the Governor's veto.

11. The Federal District Court of Guam has jurisdiction over all cases arising under the United States Constitution as well as under United States treaties and laws. The Superior Court of Guam handles cases arising under the laws of Guam.

## B. Future political status

12. In September 1976, a referendum sponsored by the Guam Political Status Commission was held, in which the majority voted that Guam should remain a Territory with a separate constitution.

13. In 1977, a 32-member Constitutional Convention was elected to draft a constitution, which was subsequently presented to and approved by the Congress and the President of the United States. In a referendum held on 4 August 1979, the Guamanian people overwhelmingly rejected the proposed constitution.

14. On 30 January 1982, a second political status referendum was held in which the voters were asked which of the following seven alternatives they preferred as "the ultimate goal of the Territory of Guam": (a) statehood; (b) independence; (c) free association; (d) the status of incorporated Territory (i.e. with a local constitution); (e) commonwealth status; (f) the status quo; or (g) other.

15. Commonwealth status received 4,914 votes (49.5 per cent), just short of an absolute majority; statehood 2,547 votes (25.7 per cent); and the status quo 1,012 votes (10.2 per cent). Every village on the island was reported to have opted for commonwealth status.

16. In a run-off political status referendum held in September 1982, Guamanian voters, by a large majority, expressed preference for a United States commonwealth as the future status of the Territory of Guam. Subsequently, in February 1984, the

Guam Legislature established an eight-member commission on self-determination to prepare a draft commonwealth agreement which, if acceptable to the people, would be submitted for consideration to the United States Congress.

Draft Commonwealth Act

17. In May 1986, the Commission on Self-Determination completed a draft Commonwealth Act. After a public-education campaign, an article-by-article vote on the acceptability of the draft was held on 8 August 1987 in which 13,841 Guamanians, or 39 per cent of the 35,846 registered voters, participated. They approved 10 of the 12 articles by majorities ranging from 51 to 61 per cent and rejected articles 1 and 7 by small margins.

18. Article 1, which spelled out the envisaged political relationship between the United States and Guam, also contained provisions which would recognize the Chamorro people (defined as those born on Guam before 1 August 1950 and their descendants) as a distinct group with certain privileges. Article 7 would transfer control over immigration from the Federal Government to Guam.

19. A second vote on articles 1 and 7, as revised by the Commission on Self-Determination, was held on 7 November 1987 and brought out 20,000 voters, or 56 per cent of all those registered. Each article was approved by about 11,400 votes, notwithstanding continuing criticism that the articles contained provisions that were actually or potentially discriminatory and were thus contrary to the United States Constitution.

20. The major provisions of the draft Commonwealth Act may be summarized as follows: Guam would become a fully self-governing Commonwealth of the United States under a locally adopted constitution, which would recognize, and be consistent with, the sovereignty of the United States over Guam and the supremacy of the provisions of the United States Constitution, as well as treaties and laws of the United States applicable to Guam. The Guam constitution would provide for a republican form of government, with separate executive, legislative and judicial branches and a bill of rights. No federal laws passed after adoption of the act would apply to Guam without its consent and a joint commission would regularly consult with the United States and Guam on all matters affecting the relationship between them. The United States would be required to consult with Guam with respect to any plan to increase or decrease activities of the Department of Defense in the Territory and would pay rent on land used by the military.

21. The draft Commonwealth Act also provides that the Congress of the United States would recognize the inalienable right to self-determination of the Chamorro people, for which provision would be made in the Guam constitution. The United States Government, by means of additional federally funded programmes, and the Commonwealth of Guam might promote (a) the maintenance and preservation of the Chamorro language, culture and traditions; (b) the enhancement of economic, social and educational opportunities for Chamorros; and (c) the training of Chamorros for employment as professionals, skilled workers and leaders in business and industry. Under the draft act, the Government of Guam would establish, for the benefit of the indigenous Chamorro people, a "Chamorro Land Trust" comprising certain lands

returned by the United States before and after the effective date of the act. The draft act specifies that, notwithstanding the above provisions, no qualified resident of Guam could be deprived of the right to vote in any plebiscite or referendum held to ratify the Commonwealth Act and that the continued eligibility for benefits of members of minority groups would not be affected.

22. Under the draft Commonwealth Act, Guam would have greater control over immigration matters than exercised by any of the 50 States or other United States Territories, as well as veto power over federal laws and regulations. It would establish a 200-mile (322-kilometre) exclusive economic zone. Further, the draft act would restrain the United States from utilizing the waters surrounding Guam for the dumping or storage of nuclear waste and would oblige the United States to clean up all chemical waste sites used by the military.

23. In March 1988, the draft Commonwealth Act was introduced in the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate, where it was referred to one Senate committee and two House committees. 4/ Subsequently, a seven-member Guam Commission on Self-Determination, chaired by the Governor of Guam, was given responsibility for obtaining United States congressional approval of the draft Commonwealth Act. 5/

24. In his state-of-the-Territory address in February 1989, Governor Ada stressed that the people of Guam had rejected territorial status for that of a commonwealth. He pointed out that under the Territory's present unincorporated status (see para. 6), the United States Congress could dispose of Guam and its people without limitations on its power and, therefore, the time had come for Guam to have the protection offered by Commonwealth status. 6/ The Governor later stated that Commonwealth status would address a wide variety of federal constraints that had hampered Guam economically, politically and socially. 7/

25. In August 1989, the federal Interagency Task Force report was released. It criticized provisions of the draft Guam Commonwealth Act, stating that it was unconstitutional and contrary to the best interests of Guam and the United States. The Task Force acknowledged Guam's colonial past and admitted that indigenous residents had never exercized their right to self-determination. The Task Force believed that an exercise of self-determination by Chamorros alone would violate the constitutional rights of immigrants who had made Guam their home. 8/

26. The Governor of Guam criticized the report calling it a reflection of out-dated policies and stating that Task Force members had not understood the bill and had missed the fundamental purpose of the draft legislation, which was to create a new political status for Guam. 9/

27. On 12 and 13 December 1989, the first congressional hearings on the draft Commonwealth Act were held at Honolulu. On the eve of the hearings, before the House Interior Sub-Committee on Insular and International Affairs, Governor Ada was quoted as saying that communications between the United States Navy's Pacific Command and the Joint Chiefs of Staff had outlined military objections to Guam's commonwealth legislature. He further stated that constitutional questions about the proposed act had been criticized as being unconstitutional by the United States

Administration. Those criticisms were directed at provisions calling for recognition of Chamorro self-determination, mutual consent and Guam-controlled immigration. 9/

28. In his statement before members of the House Interior Sub-Committee on Insular and International Affairs, Governor Ada outlined Guam's political history, took issue with the critical report on the proposed commonwealth legislation of the United States Administration (see para. 25) and offered a section of the United States Constitution as a way to grant Guam its political aspirations. He insisted that only Congress could amend the proposed Guam commonwealth bill approved by Guam voters in two plebiscites in 1987. The Governor said that it would then be submitted to Guam voters for another referendum. He further stated that members of the Commission on Self-Determination might consult with Congress and discuss their concerns, but they could not negotiate and pre-approve any recommendations by Congress. 10/

29. The Commission on Self-Determination had argued that Congress might grant Guam all its political aspirations, including Chamorro self-determination, through the "territorial clause", which gave Congress absolute authority over the United States insular areas. 11/

30. An attorney from the United States Department of Justice told members of the House Interior Sub-Committee on Insular and International Affairs at the hearings at Honolulu that the so-called territorial clause of the United States Constitution could not be used by Congress to grant special voting rights for Chamorros. He said the right to vote was a fundamental constitutional right extended to the territories that could not be superseded by congressional action. 11/

31. On 10 January 1990, press reports stated that Governor Ada and Assistant Interior Secretary Stella G. Guerra had agreed to talks between Guam leaders and policy-level officials of the United States Administration. Governor Ada characterized the agreement as a "breakthrough" for the Guam commonwealth bill as talks between the United States Administration and Guam leaders had come to a standstill since the release of the critical review by the Interagency Task Force of the commonwealth bill in August 1989 (see para. 25). 12/

32. According to press reports, it might be several years before United States congressional committees complete consideration of the draft Commonwealth Act.

Position of the United States

33. During the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, the representative of the United States stated in the Fourth Committee on 23 October 1989 13/ that self-determination had been a central theme of United States policy ever since it achieved independence more than two centuries before. General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, had made clear that the process leading to self-determination could result in different forms of political status, including independence, free association and integration into another independent state. The key element in both those resolutions was that the citizens of a Non-Self-Governing Territory must have the right to exercise their judgement about their future, free from coercion of any kind.

34. His Government believed that Guam had become virtually self-governing. It was represented in the United States House of Representatives by an elected delegate who could vote in any committee and be chairman of any sub-committee. Competitive free elections were held on a regular basis. The people of Guam, while desiring to maintain their unique cultural identity, had affirmed and reaffirmed in election after election their strong desire to maintain a close relationship with the United States. The United States Government stood ready to respond to their wishes regarding their future political status whenever they indicated the direction in which they wished to proceed.

35. The United States representative stated that the presence of military facilities and personnel in Guam was a direct manifestation of co-operative and negotiated arrangements achieved with Guam's leadership. Guamanian leaders such as Congressman Ben Blaz had told the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples that Guamanians welcomed the armed forces and considered it an honour to serve in the United States army. A very high percentage of military personnel in Guam were Guamanians, including many indigenous Chamorros.

36. The United States representative stated further that his Government continued to abide by its commitment to the rights and cultural identity of the Chamorro people in the same manner as the United States sought to protect the rights of all its citizens under the United States Constitution in its Bill of Rights. The federal Interagency Task Force, in its report submitted to the United States Congress by the United States Secretary of the Interior, supported provisions in any eventual Commonwealth legislation which would provide for United States federal programmes aimed at preserving the culture and the social and economic advancement of the Chamorro people.

Action in the United Nations

37. On 3 August 1989, Governor Ada and other members of the Guam Commission on Self-Determination met with the officers of the Special Committee at United Nations Headquarters. During the meeting, Governor Ada stated that Guam was pleased to be affiliated with the United States. He recalled that a federal official of the United States had recently characterized Guam as "self-governing". He could not agree with that since under the current interpretation of the United States Constitution, Guam could be disposed of by the United States Congress as the latter saw fit. The people of Guam had called for an end to their current non-status as an unincorporated territory and recognition of their right to self-determination, greater autonomy, self-government and a measure of political sovereignty.

38. The Governor further stated that an inter-agency panel of the United States Government had presented a draft review of the legislation which was unsatisfactory to the people of Guam. The Guam Commission on Self-Determination remained hopeful that the United States Congress and the United States Administration would grant Guamanians the status they sought and deserved.

Action by the General Assembly

39. On 22 December 1989, the General Assembly adopted by consensus resolution 44/98, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of Guam to self-determination and independence and the importance of fostering an awareness among the people of Guam of the possibilities open to them with regard to their right to self-determination. The Assembly called upon the United States, as the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to expedite the process of decolonization strictly in accordance with the expressed wishes of the people of the Territory. The Assembly further reaffirmed its strong conviction that the presence of military bases and installations in the Territory could constitute a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and that it was the responsibility of the administering Power to ensure that the existence of such bases and installations did not hinder the population of the Territory from exercising its right to self-determination and independence in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

40. The General Assembly urged the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures not to involve the Territory in any offensive acts or interference against other States and to comply fully with the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Declaration and the resolutions and decisions of the Assembly relating to military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration.

41. It reaffirmed the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of Guam and, in that connection, called upon the administering Power to take further steps to strengthen and diversify the economy of the Territory, with a view to reducing its economic dependence on the administering Power. It further reiterated that one of the obstacles to economic growth in Guam was the holding of large tracts of land by the United States federal authorities, and called upon the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to expedite the transfer of land to the people of the Territory and to take the necessary steps to safeguard their property rights.

42. The General Assembly urged the administering Power, in co-operation with the territorial Government, to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of Guam to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, as well as to support measures by the territorial Government aimed at removing constraints to growth in commercial fishing and agriculture.

43. It reaffirmed the importance of continued efforts by the territorial Government, with the support of the administering Power, to promote and develop Guam's unique cultural identity and urged the administering Power to give full recognition to the status and rights of the Chamorro people; and requested the Special Committee to continue the examination of this question at its next session, including the possible dispatch of a further visiting mission to Guam at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Power, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

## III. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

### A. General

44. Until the Second World War, the majority of Guamanians were involved in subsistence agriculture. After the war, the United States Department of Defense established military bases in the Territory, generating employment in the construction and service sectors. The formation of a civilian Government in 1951 increased the number of non-agricultural jobs available. Today, only some 150 Guamanians are employed in agriculture (see para. 62).

45. In recent years, attempts have been made to reduce the central economic role played by the United States military and to develop a more integrated and diversified economy. Over the past few years, after a prolonged period of stagnation, the private sector has been undergoing a period of rapid expansion, stimulated by a successful promotion of tourism which, in turn, has led to a construction boom and prosperity in the commercial sector. Continuing efforts are also being made to promote the development of light industry and the establishment of Guam as a regional financial, educational and administrative centre.

46. According to press reports, gross business income on Guam rose from $713 million in 1977 to $2.1 billion in 1987. 14/

47. Guam's economy is based on two main sources of revenue, United States military spending and tourism. Federal funds distributed in Guam in 1987 amounted to more than $680 million, of which $300 million was for salaries and $100 million for purchases in the local economy. 2/

48. There are more than 300 foreign sales corporations on Guam, collectively paying about $250,000 per year in licence fees. 2/, 15/

49. In 1987, eight offshore banking institutions and four foreign banks were operating in Guam. In 1987, Guam had a total of 23 banks and savings and loan associations with deposits totalling $709.3 million. 6/ (For further details, see A/AC.109/945 and Add.1 and 2 and A/AC.109/992.)

### B. Public finance

50. According to press reports, the Government of Guam is operating on a two-year budget that went into effect in fiscal year 1988/89. According to the 1987 Guam Annual Economic Review, total government revenues for 1986/87 amounted to $257 million, derived from the following sources: income taxes, $103 million; gross business receipts, $50 million; and other local taxes and revenues, $17 million. United States federal revenues amounted to $36 million; special fund revenues to $50 million; and the debt service fund yielded $500,000. 16/

51. Expenditures for the same period amounted to $220 million, which included the following: education, $66 million; government administration, $34 million; capital projects, $3 million; special revenue fund, $55 million; debt service, $5 million;

public health, $21 million; protection of life and property, $27 million; economic development, $4 million; and miscellaneous, $4 million. 16/

52. According to press reports, revenue projections for the Government of Guam in 1989/90 are expected to amount to approximately $459 million, derived as follows: taxes, $384 million; federal grants, $15.6 million; and special fund revenues, $59.6 million. 17/

53. For fiscal year 1989/90, projected government expenditures amount to $351 million. The largest expenditures are: $88 million for the Department of Education; $38 million for Guam Memorial Hospital; $31 million for the Department of Public Health and Social Services; $31 million for the Public Utility Agency of Guam; $24 million for the Department of Public Works; and $19 million each for the University of Guam and the Guam Police Department. 17/

## C. Land tenure

54. Approximately 30 per cent of the land in Guam is reserved for the Department of Defense, 1 per cent is used by the Federal Government for non-military purposes and 19 per cent belongs to the Government of Guam. About 50 per cent is privately owned; there are approximately 10,000 landowners, 94 per cent of whom own less than two hectares of land each.

55. As previously reported (see A/AC.109/816/Rev.1, para. 34), in the mid-1970s, some 1,400 Guamanians who believed they had not been adequately compensated for land appropriated by the United States military after the Second World War brought a class-action suit in United States federal courts seeking damages of up to $300 million. In 1984, the majority of plaintiffs decided to accept an out-of-court settlement of $39.5 million, which had been ruled fair by a federal district judge. Since then, because urban and rural landowners had been unable to agree among themselves upon a formula for apportioning the settlement, no disbursements have been made. However, in November 1988, it was reported that the first disbursements totalling $1.2 million were distributed to almost 100 landowners. 18/

56. The United States military retains 10,125 hectares of land for contingency purposes, rather than immediate operation needs. Much of this is prime agricultural and commercial real estate and some of it borders on Apra Harbour.

57. In 1977, in response to expressions of Guamanian dissatisfaction, the Department of the Navy, in co-operation with the Department of the Air Force, prepared a study known as the Guam Land Use Plan, recommending the release of 2,100 hectares of its surplus land so that it could be developed.

58. Subsequently, the Navy transferred to the Government of Guam 190 hectares of land on Cabras Island, as well as the land used for airport expansion at the Naval Air Station and several parcels at Apra Harbour. The 1986 Guam Annual Economic Review reported that the Department of Defense had agreed to release 1,416 hectares, or 86 per cent of the total land (1,638 hectares) currently designated for eventual release.

## D. Agriculture and fisheries

59. Guam has relatively poor natural conditions for commercial agriculture. Rainfall, when it comes, may be torrential and is often accompanied by destructive winds. The soil lacks the mineral and nutrient content needed for satisfactory agricultural production. Lack of adequate financial assistance has also limited development.

60. Only about 400 hectares of the approximately 32,000 hectares of arable land owned by the Government of Guam or by individuals are utilized for agriculture. The small size of plots is an obstacle to the use of machinery and in many cases deters farmers from purchasing capital equipment. Transport, storage and processing facilities for agricultural products are almost non-existent and marketing efforts remain fragmented.

61. According to the 1987 Guam Annual Economic Review, in 1986 the value of agricultural production increased marginally over the previous year ($7 million, compared with $6.1 million), but output of the five major categories (fruits and vegetables, poultry, beef, pork and eggs) generally declined. Some $92,000 worth of agricultural products was sold to the United States Navy, compared with $113,000 during the previous year.

62. According to press reports, the largest decrease in employment occurred in the agriculture industry when it fell from 200 to 150 during 1987 and 1988. Estimates for 1987 indicated that the agricultural sector, which employs less than 1 per cent of the work-force, contributes approximately $7.5 million to the island's billion-dollar economy. 19/

63. The Farmers Small Loan Revolving Fund announced on 31 March 1988 that $105,340 was available to local farmers through the revolving fund, which had been frozen since June 1987 because of $250,000 in delinquent loans. A maximum loan of $10,000 per farmer is available through the fund at 2 per cent interest per year. 20/

64. Although Guam is considered a natural location for a major fishing industry, the local fishing sector remains relatively undeveloped. In 1987, the estimated catch from trolling, bottom fishing and spear fishing totalled 307 metric tons valued at $1.6 million, a decrease from 412 metric tons valued at $2 million in 1986.

65. As a tuna trans-shipment site, Guam has several advantages, in particular, an excellent harbour and port operation, suitable infrastructure for the freezing, storage and handling of fish; an adequate fuel supply; and ship repair facilities. None the less, after a period of substantial activity, the volume of tuna trans-shipped through Guam has decreased significantly from 81 metric tons in 1983 to 25 metric tons in 1986. No figures are available for 1987. 16/

## E. Industry

66. According to the 1987 Guam Annual Economic Review, the manufacturing sector employs approximately 5 per cent of the total private sector and represents only 3 per cent of the total employment sector. The small manufacturing sector includes varied firms engaged in wood-carving, bag making, boat building, water bottling and in greeting cards, chocolate, clocks, surf boards, tourist souvenirs, etc. The larger manufacturing sector includes printing plants, bread and pastry factories, a watch company and textile factories.

67. The Guam Product Seals programme was begun in June 1987 to encourage increased manufacturing on Guam. Reportedly, many small manufacturing firms were beginning to emerge with the creation of this programme, under which a seal is affixed to all products manufactured in Guam. 16/ (For further details, see A/AC.109/992, para. 47.)

## F. Transport and communications

68. The Port of Guam at Apra Harbour is reported to be one of the finest deep-water ports in the Pacific Basin; the port and the modern international airport provide Guam with extensive cargo and passenger facilities.

69. In 1988, it was reported that the airport terminal, which opened in 1982 and was designed to accommodate 1.2 million passengers annually, was being used virtually to its maximum capacity and would have to be expanded. According to a representative of the Guam Airport Authority, which began operations in 1976, the airport terminal's facilities need to be expanded to accommodate the rapid increase in flight traffic. In 1985/86, the airport had sustained a loss of $400,000, whereas in 1987/88 net earnings rose to $3.3 million, compared with $150,000 during the previous fiscal year. 21/

70. In anticipation of air travel growth, the Governor of the Territory has requested that operations of the Brewer Field Naval Air Station "be turned over fully to the Government of Guam". 22/

## G. Tourism

71. In 1988, a record total of 586,000 tourists, about 85 per cent of whom were from Japan, visited Guam. This represented an increase of 102,000, or 20 per cent over the 1987 tourist arrivals. There are currently more than 4,000 hotel rooms on Guam and the number is expected to reach 5,000 within the next few years as more hotels are constructed.

72. According to a Guam Visitors Bureau promotional brochure, tourism had helped residents obtain more than 13,000 jobs and contributed to more than 18 per cent of government revenues. Tourist expenditure amounted to $373 million a year. According to a study released by the Guam Department of Commerce in November 1988, the hotel occupancy tax rose to $6.4 million, a 48.2 per cent increase over the previous year. 16/

## IV. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

### A. Housing

73. The housing situation on Guam is undergoing a strong resurgence as part of the general economic upturn. In 1986/87, Guam received $7.8 million in federal grants for public housing. 2/ This upsurge is also having an impact on the construction industry. According to press reports, the largest increase in employment was in the construction industry, which employed 3,600 in September 1988, compared with 2,500 during the same period in 1987. 23/

74. Agencies responsible for housing and urban renewal in Guam are: the Guam Housing Corporation (GHC), which was established to promote and finance low-cost housing for low-income residents; the Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA), an autonomous agency of the Government of Guam, and the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority (GHURA). In addition, the Farmers Home Administration (FHA), funded by the United States Department of Agriculture, was established on Guam in 1976 to provide farm loans for special projects. During 1987, FHA provided $8.5 million to 162 low-income Guamanian families to obtain housing. 24/

75. In 1987, a total of 417 permits were issued for new residences and other construction valued at $42.2 million, representing a 47.3 per cent increase over the 1986 figures. The average sale price of a home in Guam in 1987 was $90,000 and a condominium, $75,000. 16/

### B. Public health

76. Medical care is generally of a high standard and health conditions are good. The Department of Public Health and Social Services maintains a pharmacy, a nursing section, a maternal child health and family planning centre and a paediatric clinic.

77. The 147-bed, government-owned Guam Memorial Hospital was opened in 1976. In addition, there is the United States Naval Hospital and some 12 medical and dental clinics operated by the Guam Department of Public Health. 2/

78. About 140 physicians practise in Guam in several fields of specialization including dermatology, surgery, internal medicine, gynaecology, pathology, plastic surgery, radiology, psychiatry and optometry. There are also more than 30 dentists practising in Guam. 2/ Guam received $9.2 million in federal grants for health care in 1987.

79. In January 1989, the Guam Department of Public Health and Human Services launched a vaccination campaign against hepatitis B, which is endemic to the region. 25/

## C. Labour

80. According to statistics released by the Guam Department of Labor in September 1988, the labour force totalled 47,740, or 2,890 more than in 1987. Of that number, 30,300 workers were in the private sector; and 17,440 were working for the Government of Guam. An additional 7,120 workers were employed by the United States Federal Government. 23/

81. In November 1988, of the 1,436 alien workers involved in construction in Guam, more than 56 per cent were from the Republic of Korea, 37 per cent from China and 7 per cent from the Philippines. 26/

82. On 1 January 1989, the minimum wage in Guam increased from $3.35 per hour to $3.75 per hour. 27/

83. The majority of unions on Guam represent public employees. They include the Labor Council of the Western Pacific, the Transport Workers Union, the American Postal Workers Union and the International Association of Firefighters.

## D. Crime

84. Between 1986 and 1987, the number of violent crimes in Guam rose from 167 to 212 and property crimes for the same period rose from 2,231 to 2,491. Other crimes, predominantly disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace, rose from 3,360 to 3,718 during the same period. According to the same press reports, the number of crimes committed during the first eight months of 1988 exceeded the total number of crimes for 1987. 28/

# V. EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

85. Education is compulsory for children between 5 and 12 years of age. In 1988 there were 24 elementary schools (kindergarten to fifth grade), 6 middle schools (sixth to eighth grades), 5 academic high schools and 1 vocational high school. 2/

86. In 1987/88, there were 1,389 public school teachers employed on Guam. An estimated 5,545 students attended private elementary and secondary schools while an unspecified number attended private schools in the United States. 16/

87. In 1987/88, public school enrolment totalled 26,429 pupils, of whom 5,528 were in secondary schools.

88. Guam Community College (GCC) was opened in 1978 to offer high school programmes for the tenth to twelfth grades, apprenticeship training and adult high school education, and job and higher education preparation. In January 1987, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges of the United States (WASC) revoked the accreditation of GCC, reportedly for political interference with the school staff. In January 1988, after implementing recommendations for improvement set by WASC, GCC regained accreditation, thereby ensuring the acceptance of its students in

other schools and the restoration to them of federal education aid. GCC students were allocated the sum of $181,500 from the federal grant of $500,000 earmarked for students from the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, American Samoa and Guam.

89. The University of Guam offers undergraduate programmes in liberal arts, sciences and professional studies as well as 16 graduate programmes. In the autumn semester of 1988 there were 2,210 registered students. 16/ According to previous information submitted by the administering Power in 1986, there were also 1,400 part-time students. In April 1985, an accreditation team from WASC placed the University on accreditation probation because of its low academic quality and lack of autonomy. In March 1988, a WASC accreditation team that had spent four days at the University reported that the University had met eight of nine major WASC standards and reached highly commendable levels in some areas that had previously been substandard. In July 1988, the University was restored to full accreditation by WASC. 29/

90. In his state-of-the-Territory address in February 1989, the Governor reported that education in Guam was improving after years of neglect. As the result of a contract with the Department of Defense, and additional resources from an infrastructure bond, over $10.5 million in new funds had provided benefits for improvement in schools.

91. For 1989/90, the Government of Guam has allocated $88 million for public education, 17/ compared with $66 million for 1986/87 (see para. 53).

## Notes

1/ The information contained in this paper has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United States of America under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations on 8 March 1989 for the year ended 30 September 1988.

2/ United States Department of the Interior Fact Sheet, February 1989.

3/ Pacific Daily News, 10 November 1988.

4/ Ibid., 8 and 19 March 1988.

5/ Ibid., 28 February 1989.

6/ Ibid., 22 February 1989.

7/ Ibid., 26 February 1989.

8/ Ibid., 1 September 1989.

9/ Ibid., 12 December 1989.

10/ Ibid., 13 December 1989.

Notes (continued)

11/ Ibid., 14 December 1989.

12/ Ibid., 10 January 1990.

13/ A/C.4/44/SR.15, paras. 31-40.

14/ Pacific Daily News, 14 February 1989.

15/ Ibid., 11 January 1989.

16/ 1987 Guam Annual Economic Review.

17/ Pacific Daily News, 14 September 1989.

18/ Ibid., 29 October 1989.

19/ Ibid., 22 January 1989.

20/ Ibid., 8 April 1989.

21/ Ibid., 14 January 1989.

22/ Ibid., 19 January 1989.

23/ Ibid., 12 November 1988.

24/ Ibid., 1 April 1988.

25/ Ibid., 12 January 1989.

26/ Ibid., 7 January 1989.

27/ Ibid., 28 January 1989.

28/ Ibid., 27 November 1988.

29/ Ibid., 8 July 1988.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

# MILITARY ACTIVITIES AND ARRANGEMENTS BY COLONIAL POWERS IN TERRITORIES UNDER THEIR ADMINISTRATION WHICH MIGHT BE IMPEDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

## GUAM

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

1. The armed forces of the United States of America continue to maintain military facilities on Guam. More than 16,188 hectares, or about 30 per cent of the island's total area, are reserved for the use of the Department of Defense. The Air Force and the Navy maintain major military installations; the Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers also have facilities.

2. According to a Navy Public Affairs Officer who was interviewed by the Pacific Daily News in September 1989, the following are the main branches of active duty military personnel stationed on Guam: Navy: 7,573; Air Force: 3,311; Marines: 360; Coast Guard: 142; Guam Army National Guard: 115; and the Guam Air National Guard: 13. According to the same source, that figure does not reflect temporary personnel travelling to and from Guam. 1/

3. There is also the United States Coast Guard, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation. In addition, a number of military reserve units employ full-time active duty personnel for recruiting, training and other staffing positions. 1/

4. Andersen Air Force Base, home of the 43rd Bombardment Wing of the Third Air Division, contained between 5 and 14 nuclear-capable B-52 bombers in 1987. The primary mission of the bombers was nuclear deterrence, as well as conventional

missions of sea surveillance and interdiction, aerial minelaying and conventional weapons strikes. The Third Air Division at Andersen is deployed within the framework of Strategic Air Command (SAC) operations in the Pacific and Asia. According to a press report, 2/ in May 1988, the Air Force notified congressional leaders that it intended to close the nuclear storage depot at Andersen in fiscal year 1989, which began on 1 October 1988. According to the same report, removal of nuclear weapons from Andersen would mean that the United States Air Force would no longer have long-range nuclear weapons in the Pacific region.

5. On 12 May 1988, Air Force officials on Guam announced that Andersen had become non-nuclear and that its 43rd Bombardment Wing had been designated as "Lead the Fleet" B-52 conventional unit of SAC. In November 1989, press reports indicated that the United States Government had decided to withdraw all B-52s from Guam before 30 September 1990. 3/ (For further details, see A/AC.109/993, para. 4.)

6. In a press release issued in November 1989, 4/ the Commander of the 43rd Bombardment Wing stated that Andersen Air Force Base would lose more than $US 54 million 5/ a year and 11 civilian jobs, when the B-52s pulled out of Guam. The figure included $45 million for salaries and wages of the 1,402 military and 11 civilians in the bomb wing, $3 million for local construction and services contracts and $6 million for material, equipment and supplies. Guam would also lose income from other sources such as taxation of military personnel and aid money to public schools for military dependants.

7. There are a number of naval facilities at Guam: the Santa Rita Naval Magazine; the Naval Air Stations at Brewer Field and Apra Harbour; the naval communications station at Barrigada and the communications annex at Finegayan; the naval processing station at Ritedian Point; the Nimitz Hill, headquarters for the Naval Forces (Marianas). Guam is also a base for the repair and maintenance of, and provisioning for, the Seventh Fleet and Polaris submarines, as well as the home port of five Navy vessels. Construction of an ammunition wharf for off-loading and re-supplying nine Maritime Propositioning Ships (MPS) was completed in February 1989. 6/

8. According to data provided in the 1987 Guam Annual Economic Review, the military is an important factor in the Territory's economy and is the second largest single employer of Guamanians, after the Government of Guam. Military spending provides a major source of government revenue and constitutes a significant component of business revenue.

9. The Department of Defense employed 6,356 civilian personnel in 1987, compared with 6,662 in 1986, or some 16 per cent of the total labour force of the Territory. Total military expenditures for financial year 1987 amounted to approximately $420 million. Military pay accounted for $146 million; civilian pay, $144 million; military construction, $92 million; petroleum purchases, $145,000; other purchases, $34 million; and maintenance and contracts, $4 million. In addition, the Government of Guam collected about $33.5 million in income taxes from federal employees, including servicemen. Military commissaries and exchange retail stores accounted for approximately 19 per cent of wholesale/retail sales and services, or about $113 million.

10. According to an Economic Resource Impact Statement released by the 43rd Bombardment Wing in January 1990, Andersen Air Force Base had a $229.4 million-per-year impact on the economy of Guam. That resulted in the creation of 1,544 jobs on Guam during the fiscal year ending 30 September 1989. During that fiscal year, base expenditures amounted to $98.7 million, which reflected gross payroll, construction, and services bought off the base, and material, equipment and supplies received from off-base sources. After using a multiplier determined by data provided by the Secretary of the Air Force, the study stated that the total financial impact of Andersen increased to $229.4 million. 7/

11. The question of transfer of land under military control to the Government of Guam for economic development has been under continuous review by the military in recent years. In 1977, the Department of the Navy, in co-operation with the Department of the Air Force, prepared a study known as the Guam Land Use Plan, which recommended that some surplus land should be released for local use. According to the 1987 Guam Annual Economic Review, the Department of Defense had endorsed the release of 1,435 hectares of the total 2,024 hectares identified for return.

12. In May 1988, the Governor of Guam announced that the United States Navy had agreed to support his request for the transfer of military land for civilian use, i.e., 109 hectares of land at Barrigada (close to Andersen Air Force Base) for a new campus for the Guam Community College 8/ and 32 hectares in the Marbo area for the construction of a new high school. 9/ According to press reports of September 1989, discussions had been initiated to transfer 49 hectares of land from naval control to the Government of Guam. 10/

13. In January 1989, the Governor of Guam requested that operations of the Brewer Field Naval Air Station "be turned over fully to the Government of Guam" to meet the increasing need to expand Guam's airport to cope with the increase of tourism. 11/

14. In February 1989, the Congressional Representative for Guam asked the Sub-Committee on Military Installations and Facilities of the United States House of Representatives to study the status of Brewer Field; 12/ in March 1989, the Chairman of the Sub-Committee called on the Navy and the Air Force to review the request. 13/

## Notes

1/ Pacific Daily News, 12 September 1989.

2/ The New York Times, 16 May 1988, and The Australian, 18 May 1988.

3/ Pacific Daily News, 17 November 1989.

4/ Ibid., 24 November 1989.

Notes (continued)

5/ The local currency is the United States dollar ($US).

6/ Pacific Daily News, 5, 7 and 8 February 1989.

7/ Ibid., 12 January 1990.

8/ Ibid., 18 July 1988.

9/ Ibid., 11 February 1989.

10/ Ibid., 21 September 1989.

11/ Ibid., 14 January 1989.

12/ Ibid., 16 February 1989.

13/ Ibid., 6 March 1989.

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